

Early Learning Advisory Council Meeting

December 10, 2020



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Early Childhood

Education & Care Department

Welcome and Introductions

Barbara Tedrow, ELAC Chair



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Establish Quorum

Barbara Tedrow, ELAC Chair



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Approval of Minutes

Barbara Tedrow, ELAC Chair



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School Reopening Sub-Committee Update

Barbara Tedrow, ELAC Chair



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Moments Together Campaign Update

Sommer Smith, Media Desk



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Early Childhood Education and Care Department Updates

Elizabeth Groginsky, Secretary

Jovanna Archuleta, Assistant Secretary for Native American Early Education and Care

Alejandra Rebolledo Rea, Division Director

Mayra Acevedo, Division Director



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Agenda

- Early Childhood Landscape
- Agency Overview
- FY22 Budget Request
- 2020 Government-to-Government
- Responding to Families Needs During the Public Health Emergency





EARLY CHILDHOOD LANDSCAPE IN NEW MEXICO

Early Childhood Professionals

Program Type	Estimated Numbers
Child Care	8,958
NM PreK (<i>public and private</i>)	1,362
Home Visitors	270
Head Start and Early Head Start	2,210
Early Intervention Professionals	808
Consultants and Coaches	105
Total Early Childhood Professionals	13,662

This data is captured from internal and external data sources



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Families and Children

Total Families in New Mexico	162,623
Families Living at or Below 200 Percent of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)	53,665 (33%)

Children Birth to Age 5	Number	Percent Living at or Below 100 Percent of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
Hispanic	72,793	31.3
Native American	13,048	40.3
Black/African-American	1,063	37.1
Asian	1,310	Not Available
Caucasian	28,640	17.2
Two or More Races	9,211	32.3
Other:	6,575	27.4
TOTAL: 116,978	116,978	28.9



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Sources: US Census ACS, 1 year data from 2017-2019, Tables B01001 (B-I) and B17001 (B)
 Sources: US Census ACS, 1 year data from 2019, Table S1702; and PRB analysis of ACS data

Annual Births

Race and Ethnicity	Number	Percent
Hispanic:	12,914	56.2
Native American	2,766	12
Black/African-American	477	2
Asian	525	2.3
Caucasian	6,232	27.1
Other	52	0.2
TOTAL	22,966	

Medicaid-Funded Births per Year:	72%*
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Source: [NM-IBIS - Query Result - New Mexico Birth Data - Count \(state.nm.us\)](https://data.nm.gov/dataset/new-mexico-birth-data-count)

*2015 Data



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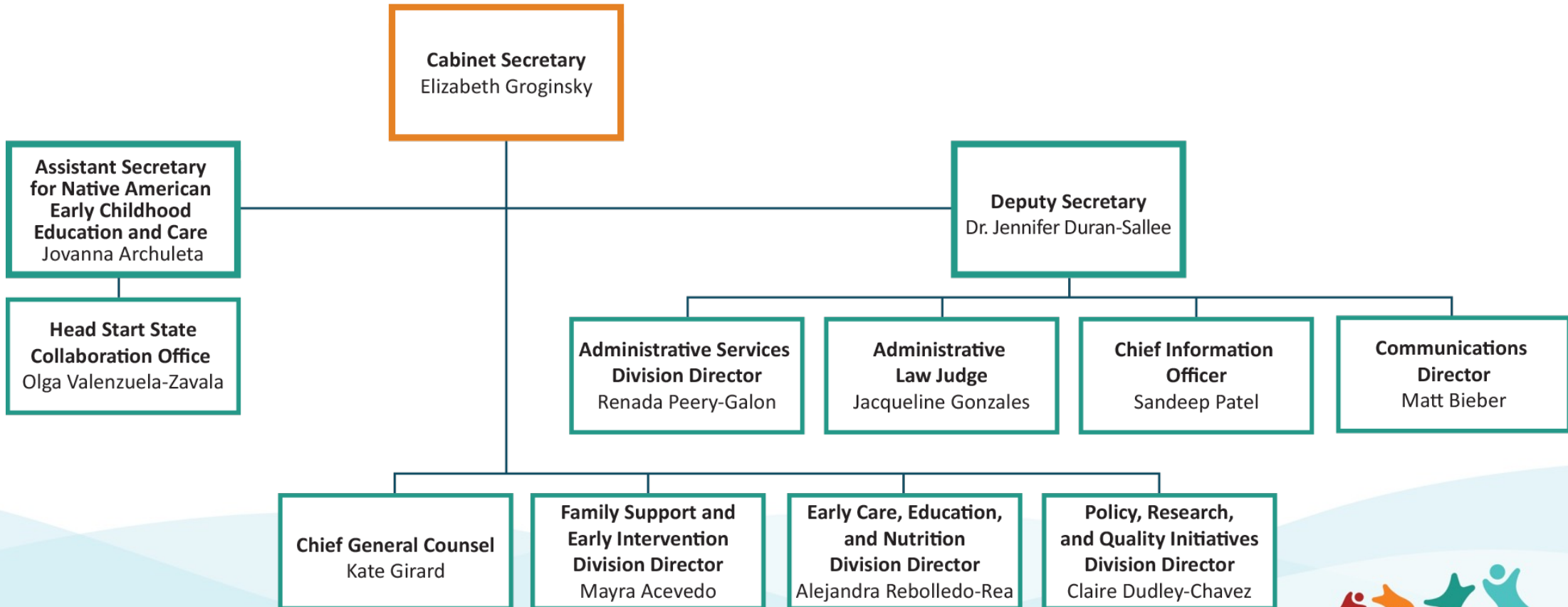
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AGENCY OVERVIEW

Organizational Chart – Top Level



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Strategic Priorities

Grow	Grow Investments
Advance	Advance a Diverse, Well-Compensated, and Credentialed Workforce
Increase	Increase Quality and Access
Achieve	Achieve Equity
Enhance	Enhance Authentic Collaboration with Families and Communities



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FY22 AGENCY BUDGET REQUEST

Community-Based Home Visiting

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Budget	\$22,771,070	\$25,482,500	\$26,005,437
Families Served	6,154	6,709 (projected)	7,280 (projected)

Highlights

- Established a public-private working group to plan expansion of Centennial Home Visiting (plan will be completed in April)
- Offer evidence-based models in nine of the state's home visiting organizations



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Family, Infant and Toddler (FIT) Program

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Budget	\$27,853,281	\$33,231,500	\$34,050,100
Children Served	14,994	15,542 (projected)	16,319 (projected)

Highlights

- All FIT families can access tele-health and limited in-person services
- In the first quarter of FY21, 53 percent of the 1,549 children referred were under age one



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Families FIRST

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Budget	\$2,100,000	\$1,799,500	\$3,284,275
Families Served	1,727	1,627 (projected)	2,127 (projected)

Highlights

- Support for COVID-19, Families FIRST nurses have provided nearly 900 hours of testing support across public health offices since July 1
- Initiated the process for nurses to provide the Nurse Family Partnership home visiting model
- Engaging families through telephone, limited in-person and written communications and support



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Child Care Services

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Budget	\$148,519,700	\$180,552,800	\$180,552,800
Children Served	22,173 (actual)	26,649 (projected)	26,649 (projected)

Highlights

- Issued emergency regulations: expanded eligibility and reduced provider, client, and administrative burden
- Maintained services to support vulnerable families, children and essential workers during health emergency
- Developed comprehensive COVID-19 Safe Practices, protocols and supports
- Waived parent copayments and distributed differential payments to providers to alleviate some financial constraints



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New Mexico PreK

Public Schools PreK	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Budget	\$46,299,000	\$48,856,500	\$47,021,800
Children Served	7,072	7,247	7,247

Community-Based PreK	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Budget	\$45,994,800	\$51,304,965	\$53,282,675
Children Served	5,411	6,171	6,486

Highlights

- Launched Joint Application for community-based and public schools PreK services
- Enhanced collaboration with the Head Start community
- Implemented UPSTART in NM PreK, tribal and Head Start programs



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Workforce Development

	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Budget	\$4,028,900	\$6,502,900	\$9,502,900
Wage Supplement	230 Participants	750 Participants	1,000 Participants
Scholarships	1,191 scholars	1,911 scholars	2,000 scholars

Highlights

- Expanded scholarships to all early childhood professionals
- Provided wage incentives to more than 3,000 child care professionals through federal CARES Act funding
- Launched Quorum, an online professional development platform 24/7 with 120 hours of Spanish courses; 1,587 professionals participating
- Funded 30 professionals to participate in CLASS Train-the-Trainer



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Early Childhood Trust Fund

- In 2020, Senate Bill 83 created the Early Childhood Trust Fund (ECTF)
- On July 1, 2021, a distribution will be made from ECTF to the Early Childhood Education and Care Program Fund in the amount of \$20 million
- The Early Childhood Education and Care Program Fund is a nonreverting fund in the state treasury. The fund consists of distributions, appropriations, gifts, grants, donations, and income from the investment of the fund
- The Legislature appropriates the funding, and the Early Childhood Education and Care Department administers the funding



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The FY22 Appropriation Request from the Early Childhood Education and Care Program Fund:

- ◆ \$10 million: maintain investment in NM PreK (private and public)
- ◆ \$3 million: advance pay parity for NM PreK teachers
- ◆ \$2 million: expand NM PreK and Early PreK in the private sector
- ◆ \$2 million: integrate data systems by acquiring physical hardware and software, routers, switches and backup devices and invest in IT infrastructure
- ◆ \$2 million: expand home visiting
- ◆ \$1 million: increase Families FIRST care and support



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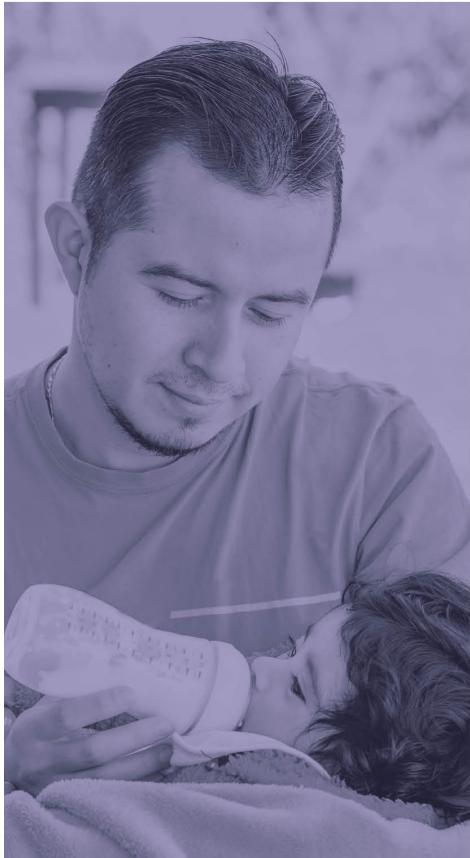
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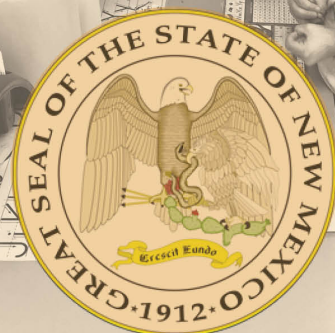
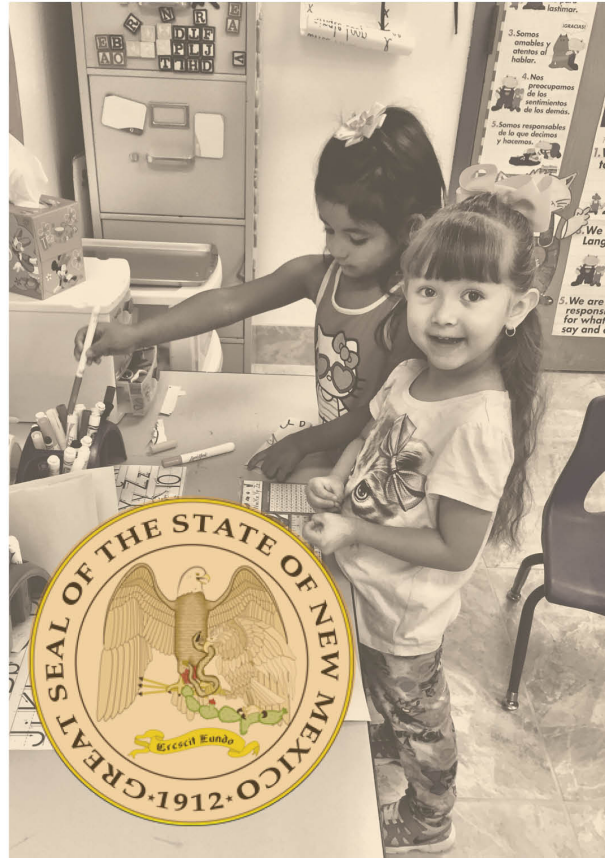


**PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT BIRTH TO FIVE (PDG B-5)
STRATEGIC PLAN**



THE NEW MEXICO

EARLY CHILDHOOD STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2024

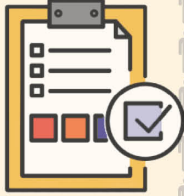


THE PROCESS

Beginning with the Needs Assessment, different options and methods for engagement were available to communities throughout New Mexico with a focus on lifting underrepresented voices. Previous plans and analysis from New Mexico were reviewed, as were plans and research from other states. All activities were overseen and shaped by the Leadership Team. Most everyone drank a lot of coffee.



4,730
TOTAL
ENGAGEMENT



2,809
SURVEY +
ONLINE
ENGAGEMENT
INCLUDING **206**
TRIBAL SURVEY RESPONSES



1,921
TOTAL
IN PERSON
ENGAGEMENT

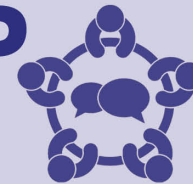
6 TRIBAL
CONVENINGS
98 COMMUNITY
CONVERSATIONS



26
STATE
LEADERSHIP MEETINGS



MORE
THAN **75**
LOCAL
COALITIONS
+ PARTNERS
ENGAGED



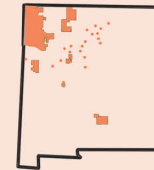
57
OTHER
PLANS +
RESEARCH
REVIEWED



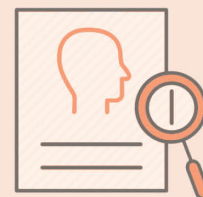
27 NEW MEXICO
PLANS +
RESEARCH

REVIEWS
OF OTHER
STATES

23 TRIBES,
PUEBLOS, NATIONS
ENGAGED



16
TRIBAL
EXPERTS
INTERVIEWED



31
EXPERT
REVIEWERS
TOTAL


8,127
CUPS OF
COFFEE



14,113
EMAILS SENT



Strategic Plan Guiding Principles

- **EQUITABLE ACCESS**
 - ◆ Ensure respect for and celebration of New Mexico's multicultural and multilingual diversity
 - ◆ Seek to heal trauma, including historical and generational trauma, and deconstruct systemic racism and social injustice
 - ◆ Prioritize resources and opportunities for those with greatest need
 - **COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION**
 - ◆ Foster transparency through clear and consistent communications and build trust in all areas and relationships with early childhood programs and tribal partners
 - ◆ Build on and magnify local assets and abilities to solve local problems; including social capital, networks, and relationships
 - **QUALITY**
 - ◆ Embrace continuous improvement
 - ◆ Use developmentally appropriate approaches and inclusive practices for working with all children and families
 - ◆ Support early childhood educators and cultural knowledge systems
 - ◆ Ensure best practices and healthy environment and interactions throughout the system
- 

Goal One: Recognize all **families** in New Mexico as key decision makers and ensure they have access to the resources they need to thrive

- **Objective 1A.** Ensure that 70 percent of early childhood programs and services are designed to support multi-lingual, multi-generational and culturally diverse households by Dec. 2024
- **Objective 1B.** Provide full program access to recipients by addressing languages, availability, and other barriers to accessing needed programs and services
- **Objective 1C.** Increase parent and caregiver awareness of early childhood services by 15 percent annually

Goal Two: Create a cohesive **governance** system that supports an aligned, efficient and responsive system of high-quality early childhood programs and services

- **Objective 2A.** Develop an aligned, consumer support process that recognizes and celebrates New Mexico's diversity
- **Objective 2B.** Align state-funded early childhood program requirements across the mixed delivery systems
- **Objective 2C.** Strengthen partnerships at the state and local levels to effectively use all available resources across the mixed-delivery system by Dec. 2024

Goal Three: Ensure that New Mexico's early childhood **workforce** is supported to meet the needs of all families and young children through an aligned professional development system and through compensation that reflects the level of experience and training

- **Objective 3A.** Support and adequately compensate the workforce in order to ensure their physical and social well-being
- **Objective 3B.** Increase, by 10 percent annually, the number of degreed and credentialed professionals within the early childhood workforce
- **Objective 3C.** Align professional development training and technical assistance

Goal Four: Provide sustainable and secure **funding** to support New Mexico's youngest children and their families

- **Objective 4A.** Maximize and leverage all possible funding
- **Objective 4B.** Create flexible funding opportunities to incentivize outcomes rather than process measures
- **Objective 4C.** Identify the true cost of care and increase collaboration and funding available to increase access to quality programs

Goal Five: Develop a statewide, integrated **data** system to better inform planning and decision-making for all stakeholders

- **Objective 5A.** Ensure alignment and sharing of data across state-level departments and systems, plus medical practice and insurance data, while maintaining the ethical use of data and total privacy and confidentiality of individuals, including PII and HIPPA-protected
- **Objective 5B.** Promote accountability, enhance practice, and guide continuous quality improvement
- **Objective 5C.** Define, design and integrate data into a unified public interface to allow transparency of aggregate information throughout the system

Goal Six: Strengthen ongoing government-to-government relationships with all **tribal** communities in order to foster mutual trust, understanding, and partnerships that respect tribal sovereignty

- **Objective 6A.** Ensure 100 percent of children in tribal communities have access to facilities that promote the integration of education, language and culture as identified and defined by tribal communities by 2024
- **Objective 6B.** Enhance knowledge and respect of the culture, sovereignty and self-determination and governance of tribes and programs
- **Objective 6C.** Adhere to existing laws relating to tribal nations.



GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT

2020 Government-to-Government Tribal Summit

- Collaboration with PED and HED
- Cradle to Career Approach
- Guidance provided by Tribal Leaders

Collaboration on Indian Education

2020 Report



Looking Forward

- Cohesive early childhood strategic plan with tribes
- Assessment of facilities
- Expansion of early childhood services that supports language and culture
- Curricula development infused with tribal values
- Intergovernmental Agreements aligned with tribal priorities.
- Collaboration with Children's Cabinet and local collaboratives



Cross Agency Partnership

- The Indian Affairs Department, PED, and ECECD worked collaboratively on HB2 appropriations.
- \$45,450 was allocated to support early childhood initiatives with:
 - Curriculum Development
 - Professional Development
 - Facility Assessments
- 19 tribes have applied to date.





RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF FAMILIES DURING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Early Care, Education, and Nutrition

Alejandra Rebolledo Rea, Director



Family Nutrition Services

- ◆ Served more than seven million meals across the state since March 2020
- ◆ Received several waivers from USDA for Summer Food Program Services, Child and Adult Care Food Program and At-Risk Programs
- ◆ Established Meals to You Services prioritizing tribal communities
- ◆ Collaboration with USDA, PED, IAD, HSD and ALTSD

Child Care Services

- ◆ Engagement and participation of the child care sector since the beginning of the pandemic
- ◆ Established COVID-Safe practices and protocols
- ◆ Established supports for parents and providers – copay waiver, FFN path, essential worker supports, differential payments, wage support and stabilization grants
- ◆ Issued emergency regulation changes

PreK Services

- ◆ Guidance to programs - flexibility and parental needs
- ◆ Communication with families
- ◆ Consultation for remote learning support
- ◆ JumpStart, Connect for Learning opportunities to support PreK programs



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Family Support and Early Intervention

Mayra Acevedo, Director

- **Families FIRST**

- ◆ Provided 1,727 care and pediatric coordination visits virtually
- ◆ Administer COVID-19 testing – 100-150 per day
- ◆ Rapid Response Support – Early Childhood Professionals and Families
- ◆ Connect families to resources and Medicaid enrollment support

- **Home Visiting**

- ◆ Received waiver to allow for virtual visits
- ◆ Supported virtual visit engagement
- ◆ Experienced an increase in the number of visits, 4867 per month.
- ◆ Distributed supplies: baby formula, technology equipment, food and home visiting brochures and learning activity packages
- ◆ COVID-19 Safety Guidance Workgroup

- **FIT**

- ◆ Introduced tele-health services overnight
- ◆ Distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) to FIT providers
- ◆ Served 9,311 children by tele-health since March 2020.
- ◆ Provided 199,391 hours of tele-health services from March – July 2020
- ◆ Worked with Medicaid to ensure coverage of phone only tele-health services.
- ◆ Developed COVID-19 Safety Guidance for in-person services
- ◆ Conducted focus groups with providers and parents - Tele-health services and COVID-19 Guidance.



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Quorum Presentation

*Gillian Gansler, Vice President, Business Development,
Quality Assist, Inc.*



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Announcements



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Public Comment Period



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Next Meeting Date

March 2021

- *Preschool Development Grant Update*
- *Equity Council Update*



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